

INDUSTRY: AUTO TECHNICIANS
PROGRAMME: READY FOR WORK
ACTIVITY: WORK EXPERIENCE
BUSINESS: JAG AUTO ENGINEERS LTD
LOCAL AUTHORITY: STIRLING



KIERAN IS 'READY FOR WORK'

Ready for Work, run by Stirling Council is an alternative curriculum for S4 young people centred on employability skills, literacy, numeracy and work experience. It provides a different context for learning to prepare young people for the workplace. Their work with young people is underpinned by the relationships they develop with local businesses within the community. Businesses are able to provide opportunities for young people to enter the workplace and gain valuable experience, but partnering with education in this way also has its benefits for local industry as it allows businesses direct access to tap in to the local talented young workforce.

Kieran was referred to the Ready for Work programme by his secondary school as he was ready for a change of learning environment. As he had a flair for cooking and IT he had some great options but his real passion was in working with cars. Once Kieran was displaying a commitment and positive attitude, Andrew McCool, Opportunities for All Coordinator, from the Ready for Work team approached DYW Forth Valley for employer support to arrange a work placement.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD JAG AUTO ENGINEERS LTD GIVE TO OTHER BUSINESSES CONSIDERING SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE OR TAKING ON AN MA?

Be prepared for the process to take up a lot of your time (and patience!!)

It makes a huge difference to be happy in your work so commitment & hard work are noticed and rewarded. As a small business, we are hardworking, positive & friendly individuals.

The thing we enjoy most about working in this business is contact with people – customers and staff; without engaging & supporting young people to enter the industry, there will be a skills shortage later down the line.

KATHY GARRIOCH, JAG AUTO ENGINEERS LTD



JAG Autos, who had previously supported school employer engagement activities with another school in the Stirling area agreed to offer the work placement which ultimately has lead to Kieran's successful appointment onto a Modern Apprenticeship with the business.



KIERAN SAYS:

"I have always enjoyed working on cars. I used to work on and sell my own as a hobby.

I enjoy everything about the job, from doing car wheel alignments and checking courtesy cars to make sure they are safe for customers, to diagnostics.

My advice to anyone in terms of deciding on a career would be pick something you really love and try to get some experience. I hope to have my own garage one day and doing work experience definitely helped me get my apprenticeship to start that journey!"



ESTHER HARRINGTON, READY FOR WORK COORDINATOR SAYS:

"It is great watching young people discover the strengths they have that they are not aware of. It is also very rewarding to see them develop their confidence and skills and ultimately enter the most appropriate positive destination for them. Kieran grasped the opportunity by showing a positive attitude every day he was at work placement and it really impressed the employer. It is important for young people to make the most of any opportunity by displaying their most positive attitude."

Now more than ever it is vital for industry to support young people to explore their interests outside of a school setting. Through signing up to the Young Person's Guarantee via DYW Forth Valley businesses can partner with education to raise awareness of their industry, promote desirable skills development and gain access to new talent early and efficiently in their career journey.

Contact us using any of the methods below to discuss how you can sign up to the Young Persons Guarantee.

Andrew McCool makes one more plea of businesses on behalf of education across Forth Valley:
"Give young people a chance, they may just surprise you."

To contact DYW Forth Valley please email: GETINVOLVED@DYW.FORTHVALLEY.AC.UK

You can also visit our website at: WWW.DYWFORTHVALLEY.COM



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